

## Message Text

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70-S  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 117526

P R 292018Z NOV 73  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8976  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 17225

EXDIS

DEPT ALSO PASS U.S. INTEREST CAIRO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF  
SUBJECT: EC-9 AND THE MIDEAST

REF: STATE 232365

BEGIN SUMMARY. AS AUTHORIZED, EMBOFF REVIEWED INFORMATION IN REFTEL NOV 29 WITH FONOFF ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAHN AND MIDEAST DEPT DIRECTOR REDIES AND INQUIRED CONCERNING RESULTS OF EC DEMARCHE TO ARAB GOVERNMENTS AND EC/ISRAELI CONTACTS. IN REPLY, THE GERMANS SAID ARAB REACTION WAS MORE UNDERSTANDING IN NON-OIL PRODUCING

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STATES WHILE SAUDI AND OTHER OIL-PRODUCING STATES TOOK A TOUGH LINE. EC SO FAR HAS MADE NO REAL DECISIONS OR UNDERTAKEN ANY CONTACTS WITH ISRAEL. YAMANI AND ABDESSELAM HAVE POSTPONED THEIR VISIT TO BONN. FRG SOURCES BELIEVE EGYPT IS SEEKING TO PLAY CONSTRUCTIVE

ROLE ON OIL ISSUE BUT BONN HAS REPORT THAT CAIRO  
RELUCTANT TO START PEACE CONFERENCE PRIOR TO ISRAELI  
RETREAT TO OCT 22 LINES. ACTION REQUESTED-APPROPRIATE  
GUIDANCE CONCERNING POSSIBLE UPCOMING MIDEAST  
TRIP BY THE SECRETARY. END SUMMARY

1. EC DEMARCHE IN NON-OIL PRODUCING STATES. LAHN AND  
REDIES SAID REACTIONS IN ALL CAPITALS WERE RATHER  
TENTATIVE IN VIEW OF THE UPCOMING ALGIERS SUMMIT  
CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, REDIES SAID THE ARAB REACTIONS  
COULD BE DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS. THE GROUP SHOWING  
SOME UNDERSTANDING FOR THE EC ARGUMENTS UNFORTUNATELY  
WAS LIMITED ESSENTIALLY TO NON-OIL PRODUCING STATES SUCH  
AS LEBANON, TUNISIA, MOROCCO, YEMEN AND THE SUDAN;  
THESE STATES APPEARED TO BE CONCERNED THAT THEY MIGHT  
SUFFER AS A RESULT OF EUROPEAN REACTIONS TO THE ARAB  
OIL EMBARGO. REDIES DID SAY THAT ALGERIA ALSO SHOWED  
SOME DEGREE OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE EC APPROACH.

2. EC DEMARCHE IN OIL PRODUCING STATES. REDIES SAID  
THE ARAB REACTION TO THE EC DEMARCHE WAS QUITE  
DIFFERENT AMONG THE OIL PRODUCING STATES SUCH AS  
SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT AND LIBYA. HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN  
NO EVOLUTION FROM THE POSITION FAISAL HAD TAKEN WITH  
THE SECRETARY. REDIES SAID THE SAUDIS, WHOSE LINE WAS  
BASICALLY FOLLOWED IN THE OTHER OIL-PRODUCING STATES,  
HAD INDICATED THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE SOME PROGRESS  
AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE BEFORE THE ARABS WOULD CEASE  
THEIR PRESENT USE OF OIL FOR DIPLOMATIC PURPOSES.

3. EGYPT. AS TO EGYPT, REDIES CONFIRMED LONDON  
13859 REPORT THAT FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY HAD REACTED  
WITH SOME PIQUE THAT EUROPE SHOULD TAKE ITS FIRST  
JOINT ACTION AGAINST THE ARABS. HOWEVER, REDIES SAID  
HE CONSIDERED FAHMY'S REACTION TO BE A MATTER OF THE  
LATTER'S PERSONAL STYLE, WHICH DID NOT NECESSARILY  
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REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT. REDIES  
RELATED THAT FRG DEVELOPMENT MINISTER EPPLER HAD DRAWN  
THE CONCLUSION FROM RECENT VISIT TO CAIRO THAT  
EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT CONTINUED ARAB USE  
OF OIL WEAPON WOULD TEND TO ERODE ARAB POSITION IN  
EUROPE. EPPLER HAD REPORTED THAT CAIRO WAS SEEKING TO  
MOVE IN A POSITIVE DIRECTION ON THE OIL ISSUE BUT WAS  
RELUCTANT TO PRESS SAUDI ARABIA TOO STRONGLY AFTER  
HAVING INITIALLY SUGGESTED USE OF THE OIL WEAPON TO  
FAISAL. REFERRING TO POINT TWO OF SIX-POINT AGREEMENT,  
REGARDING DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES, LAHN REFERRED TO  
REPORT RECEIVED A FEW DAYS AGO FROM CAIRO THAT EGYPTIANS  
WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN PEACE CONFERENCE  
ONLY IF ISRAEL PREVIOUSLY HAD RETREATED TO OCT 22 LINES.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USINT CAIRO.

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70-S  
ACTION SS-30

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8977  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
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EXDIS

LAHN SAID HE THOUGHT THERE WAS NO CHANCE OF ISRAEL  
TAKING SUCH A STEP IN THE PRE-DEC 31 ELECTION PERIOD.

4. ALGIERS SUMMIT. REDIES SAID THE DIVIDED REACTIONS  
TO OIL WEAPON BETWEEN NON-OIL PRODUCING STATES AND  
OIL-PRODUCING STATES ALSO APPEARS TO HAVE MANIFESTED  
ITSELF AT THE ALGIERS SUMMIT. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD  
THAT EGYPT SOUGHT IN ALGIERS TO PLAY A MEDIATING  
TYPE ROLE AND WAS SEEKING TO MOVE IN A MODERATE AND  
CONSTRUCTIVE DIRECTION ON THE OIL ISSUE. REDIES SAID  
THE SUMMIT SEEMS TO HAVE AGREED TO MAINTAIN THE USE OF  
THE OIL WEAPON BUT, FOR THE TIME BEING, THERE WAS A  
TENDENCY NOT TO GO BEYOND THE PRESENT LEVEL OF CUTBACK  
FOR EUROPEAN SUPPLY. REDIES SAID HE THOUGHT THIS ISSUE  
SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN LEFT OPEN AT THE SUMMIT. LAHN ADDED

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HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT WHILE THE ALGIERS SUMMIT HAD

DECIDED THAT THE PLO AND ARAFAT WOULD REPRESENT PALESTINIANS THAT THIS DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT PLO WOULD BE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS. IN SHORT, THIS ISSUE, WITH ITS OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE FOR JORDANIAN PARTICIPATION AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE, IS PROBABLY STILL OPEN TO SOME EXTENT.

5. EC/ISRAELI RELATIONS. REDIES CONFIRMED THAT THE NOV 20 EC-9 MINISTERIAL HAD EVIDENCED INTEREST OF THE NINE IN TAKING UP A DIALOGUE WITH ISRAEL BUT HAD REACHED NO AGREEMENT ON THE TIMING OR CHARACTER OF EC CONTACTS WITH ISRAEL. EC POLITICAL COMMITTEE WILL MEET EITHER DEC 3 OR 6 TO REVIEW THIS MATTER FURTHER FOLLOWING NOV 30 EC MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS GROUP DISCUSSION AND ASSESSMENT OF ALGIERS SUMMIT. THE DANES PROBABLY THEN WILL SEEK CLARIFICATION REGARDING WHAT THE ISRAELIS HAVE IN MIND ON SUCH A DIALOGUE. REDIES MADE CLEAR THE RATHER WIDE SENTIMENT AMONG EC MEMBER STATE OFFICIALS THAT ISRAEL MAY WISH TO USE SUCH A DIALOGUE, WHICH THEY REQUESTED IN NOV 19 AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE DANES SIMPLY TO REPEAT ALREADY WELL KNOWN ISRAELI VIEWS. MOREOVER, REDIES SAID NONE OF THE NINE REALLY EXPECT ANY MOVEMENT IN ISRAEL BEFORE DEC 31 ELECTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, REDIES EXPLICITLY WELCOMED THE "VERY FLEXIBLE COMMENTS" MADE YESTERDAY BY EBAN IN TALK WITH GROUP OF AMERICAN JEWS. ACCORDING TO REDIES, EBAN APPARENTLY "CAME OUT OPENLY IN THESE REMARKS AS A DOVE."

6. YAMANI/ABDESELAM VISIT. REDIES TELLS US THAT JOINT VISIT TO BONN OF SAUDI OIL MINISTER YAMANI AND ALGERIAN INDUSTRIAL MINISTER ABDESELAM HAS BEEN POSTPONED. THE TWO ARAB MINISTERS, PRESENTLY IN LONDON, ARE IN THE GERMAN VIEW PROBABLY AWAITING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWING THE ALGIERS SUMMIT.

7. SECRETARY'S TRAVELS. IN CLOSING, LAHN NOTED NOV 29 GERMAN PRESS REFERENCE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SECRETARY IS PLANNING ANOTHER VISIT TO CAIRO, TEL AVIV AND DAMASCUS FOLLOWING THE NATO MINISTERIAL. LAHN ASKED  
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US TO INQUIRE ABOUT THIS REPORT AND, IF IT IS VALID, THE MEMBERS OF THE SECRETARY'S DELEGATION. REDIES INDICATED THAT HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH SISCO OR ATHERTON - IF THEY ARE TRAVELLING WITH THE SECRETARY'S DELEGATION. REDIES ADDED THAT HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO TRAVEL TO BRUSSELS OR OTHER EUROPEAN CAPITALS FOR THIS PURPOSE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE.

8. DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO OTHER MIDEAST CAPITALS AS

APPROPRIATE.  
HILLENBRAND

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USINT CAIRO.

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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PARIS  
ROME  
BRUSSELS  
THE HAGUE  
LUXEMBOURG  
COPENHAGEN

TOKYO  
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